

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original) A method of producing an alkaline storage battery equipped with electrode group having alternately stacked positive and negative electrodes via separators, which is placed in a metal-made outer casing such that the core plate of the electrodes disposed at the outermost side of the electrode group are exposed and the exposed core plates are in contact with the metal-made outer casing, said method comprising:

a coating step of coating an active material slurry comprising an active material, a binder, and a solvent for the binder onto both surfaces of the core plate;

a drying step of drying the electrode coated with the active material slurry;

an active material removing step of removing the active material of the side of forming the exposed surface of the core plate; and

a solvent-attaching step of attaching the solvent for the binder from the exposed surface side of the core plate.

2. (Original) A method of producing an alkaline storage battery equipped with electrode group having alternately stacked positive and negative electrodes via separators, which is placed in a metal-made outer casing such that the core plate of the electrode disposed at the outermost sides of the electrode group are exposed and the

exposed core plate are in contact with the metal-made outer casing, said method comprising:

a coating step of coating an active material slurry comprising an active material, a binder, and a solvent for the binder onto both surfaces of the core plate;

a drying step of drying the electrode coated with the active material slurry;

a solvent-attaching step of attaching the solvent for the binder from the active material layer side forming the exposure surface of the core plate; and

an active material-removing step of removing the active material of the side forming the exposed surface of the core plate.

3. (Original) The method of producing an alkaline storage battery described in claim 2, wherein the step of removing the active material is carried out, after the above-described solvent- attaching step, in the state that the electrode attached with the solvent for the binder is undried.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of producing an alkaline storage battery described in claim 1, wherein the solvent in the solvent- attaching step contains the binder.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of producing an alkaline storage battery described in claim 1, wherein attaching of the solvent in the solvent-attaching step is carried out by spraying.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of producing an alkaline storage battery described in claim 1, wherein the electrode is hydrogen absorbing alloy electrode using a

hydrogen absorbing alloy as the active material, which can reversibly carrying out electrochemical absorbing and desorbing of hydrogen.

7.-12. Withdrawn

13. (New) A method of producing an alkaline storage battery equipped with electrode group having alternately stacked positive and negative electrode via separators, comprising the steps of:

coating an active material slurry comprising an active material, a binder, and a solvent for the binder onto a core plate;

drying the electrode coated with the active material slurry;

attaching the solvent for the binder to the dried electrode.